COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BR	IST	'OL.	SS.

SUPERIOR COURT DEPT. OF THE TRIAL COURT

CIVIL ACTION

RECEIVED

____, Plaintiff(s)

No.

UPS CORPORATE LEGAL ATLANTA, GA 30328

V.

320

United Parcel Service

AUG 1 1 2004Peter St. Laurent

_, Defendant(s)

(TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:

PLEASE INDICATE TYPE OF ACTION INVOLVED: —
TORT — MOTOR VEHICLE TORT — CONTRACT —
EQUITABLE RELIEF — OTHER.)

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Seth J. Elin,

Esquire

plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 122 Dean Street, Taunton, MA 02780;
an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within (20) days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint in the office of the Clerk of this Court at Taunton either before service upon plaintiff's attorney or within a reasonable time thereafter.

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(a), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

Witness, ROBERT L. STEADMAN, Adm. Justice of the Superior Court Dept. of the Trial

Court, at Taunton, the <u>ninth</u> day of <u>August</u>, in the year

of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and two thousand and four.

NOTES.

- 1. This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. When more than one defendant is involved, the names of all defendants should appear in the caption. If a separate summons is used for each defendant, each should be addressed to the particular defendant.

Magistrate

3. If the Commonwealth or an officer of agency thereof is a defendant, the time to be inserted is 60 days.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT - You need not appear personally in Court to answer the complaint, but if you claim to have a defense, either you or your atterney must serve a copy of your written answer within 20 days as specified herein and also file the original in the Clerk's Office.

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET	(S)		al Court of Mass Superior Court De County: Bristol	achusetts partment
PLANTIFF(S)		DEFENDANT(S)		
Peter St. Laurent		United Par	cel Service	
ATTORNEY, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE Seth J. Elin, Esq.		ATTORNEY (if knows	•	
Keches & Mallen, P.C., 122 Dean St	Taunton, M	Hugh Murry Murtha Cull	ina. LLP	
Board of Bar Overseers number:	0278 0	Citiplace I	-185 Asylum Street, I	dartford, CT
	Origin code and	track designation	on	
Place an x in one box only:		4. F04 D	District Court Appeal c.231, s	s. 97 &104 (After
2. F02 Removal to Sup.Ct. C.231,s.104			(^) Reactivated after rescript; reli	iet from
(Before trial) (F)	.	judgm	nent/Order (Mass.R.Civ.P. 60) (X)
3. F03 Retransfer to Sup.Ct. C.231,s.102	C (X)	☐ 6. E10 S	Summary Process Appeal (X	.)
TYPE OF ACTIO	N AND TRACK I		See reverse side)	···
CODE NO. TYPE OF ACTION (spec		IS THIS A	JURY CASE?	
B22 Employment Discri	(F)	(X)Yes	() No	
The following is a full, itemized and de	tailed statemen	nt of the facts	on which plaintiff relies	to determine
money damages. For this form, disreg			claims; indicate single	damages only
(Δ)	TORT C tach additional sh		n/l	
A. Documented medical expenses to date:				
Total hospital expenses				\$
2. Total Doctor expenses	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	\$ _.
3. Total chiropractic expenses4. Total physical therapy expenses			*****	Þ
5. Total other expenses (describe)				\$
3. Documented lost wages and compensation	n to date		Subtotal	\$
C. Documented property damages to date				
D. Reasonably anticipated future medical and hospital expenses				
Reasonably anticipated lost wages Other documented items of damages (described)				\$
. Otion documented terms of damages (desi	Jilbe)		;	. <i></i>
Brief description of plaintiff's injury, including			cribe)	
The Defendant refused to accomoda	te the Plaint	iff and wron	gfully	
prevented him from returning to h	is job.		5	.
			TOTAL	+.000,02
	TOARTHAO	. 01 4010		
(Att.	CONTRACT ach additional she		٧١	
rovide a detailed description of claim(s):		00.0 40 110000041	37	
			TOTAL \$	
				
PLEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMBER, NAMI COURT DEPARTMENT	E AND COUNTY,	ANY RELATED	ACTION PENDING IN THE	SUPERIOR
"I hereby certify that I have complied with th	e requirements (of Rule 5 of the	Supreme Judicial Court Ui	niform Rules or
Dispute Resolution (SJC Rule 1:18) requiring	that I provide n	ny clients with in	iformation about court-cor	nnected dispute
resolution services and discuss with them the	ne advantages ar	nd disadvantage	es of the various methods.'	' / ,
Signature of Attorney of Record	U W		DATE	:: 5/20/0°
\mathcal{J}				

RECEIVED

AUG 1 1 2004

UPS CORPORATE LEGAL
UPS CORPORATE LEGAL
ATLANTA, GA 30328 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL SS		SUPERIOR COURT
		CIVIL ACTION NO.
)	
Peter St. Laurent,)	

Peter St. Laurent,
Plaintiff,

v.

United Parcel Service,
Defendant.

COMPLAINT

<u>PARTIES</u>

- The Plaintiff, Peter St. Laurent ("St. Laurent"), is an individual residing at 164 Elm Street,
 North Allteboro, Massachusetts 02760, Bristol County.
- The Defendant, United Parcel Service ("UPS"), is a national Corporation which operates a
 package distribution center located at 1045 University Avenue, Norwood, Massachusetts.

FACTS

- 3. Mr. St. Laurent is 55 years old, has a high school degree, and is married with four children.
- 4. Mr. St. Laurent began working at UPS in approximately 1974 as a package delivery man, also known as a driver.
- 5. UPS is a multi-million dollar international company with thousands of employees in the United States.
- 6. Mr. St. Laurent's job as a driver requires him to deliver packages that range from the size

- and weight of an envelope to over 100 pounds.
- 7. Mr. St. Laurent is not required to lift anything that weighs greater then seventy pounds.
- 8. Mr. St. Laurent was required to make numerous stops during the day to pick-up and deliver packages.
- 9. Most stops did not require Mr. St. Laurent to lift heavy weights.
- 10. The stops that usually had multiple packages for pick-up would have loading bays to make pick-ups easier.
- 11. If Mr. St. Laurent is delivering a heavy package, carts are available to help Mr. St.

 Laurent transport the packages.
- 12. The trucks Mr. St. Laurent uses are built in such a way that it is easy to get in and out of the truck, and easy to get packages out of the truck.
- 13. Mr. St. Laurent did not repetitively lift packages, as he was typically required to lift a small number of packages at most sites, for a short period, and then would drive to the next site.
- 14. On November 13, 2000, Mr. St. Laurent suffered a work-related back injury when he leaned over to pick up his keys and strained his back. Mr. St. Laurent returned to work on approximately December 11, 2000 after this injury. At no time did UPS require Mr. St. Laurent to be examined by a company doctor prior to this return.
- 15. Mr. St. Laurent continued to work until January of 2001, at which time he aggravated his back and left work.
- 16. Mr. St. Laurent received workers' compensation benefits during this period from Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, UPS' workers' compensation insurance carrier.

- 17. On March 26, 2001, Mr. St. Laurent returned to work. Again, he was never required to be examined by a UPS doctor before his return.
- 18. Mr. St. Laurent was only able to work a few days before leaving work again due to back pain. Mr. St. Laurent left work on March 26, 2001 due to his work-related back injury and again received workers' compensation benefits.
- On May 22, 2001, UPS' workers' compensation insurance carrier hired Dr. Isadore G.
 Yablon to examine Mr. St. Laurent.
- 20. Dr. Yablon is regularly hired by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, and many other insurance companies to perform medical examinations for insurance companies engaged in workers' compensation litigation.
- 21. Dr. Yablon examined Mr. St. Laurent for approximately five minutes and concluded that Mr. St. Laurent could work with a 25 pounds lifting restriction. Mr. St. Laurent was never asked to lift anything, and no physical examination took place.
- 22. Mr. St. Laurent told Mr. Yablon during this examination that his back felt fine.
- 23. After Mr. St. Laurent's back strain fully healed, on approximately May 25, 2001, Mr. St. Laurent was released to return to work by his treating doctor, without any restrictions.
- 24. Mr. St. Laurent provided his supervisor at UPS a disability note which cleared him to return to work full duty on May 29, 2001.
- 25. UPS refused to let Mr. St. Laurent return to work. Instead, it insisted that Mr. St. Laurent be seen by another doctor.
- 26. UPS allowed numerous employee to return to work in the past by simply accepting a note from their treating doctor. Many times UPS never asked that a second note be obtained

- by a UPS doctor.
- On July 30, 2000, a list of three doctors was provided to Mr. St. Laurent to choose a 27 doctor to examine him.
- 28. Mr. St. Laurent chose a doctor on that list, but was instructed that he could not bee seen by that doctor and instead had to see one of the other two.
- 29. Mr. St. Laurent inquired as to why he could not see the doctor he chose, but no response was given.
- 30. As such, Mr. St. Laurent insisted that he be given a new set of three doctors by UPS.
- 31. On September 12, 2001, Mr. St. Laurent was given a new list of doctors and he selected Dr. Nason Burden.
- 32. Mr. St. Laurent was examined by Dr. Burden on October 12, 2001. Liberty Mutual Insurance Company paid for this doctor's examination and Dr. Burden's report was mailed directly to Liberty Mutual.
- **3**3. Dr. Burden did not ask Mr. St. Laurent to lift any weights or perform any functional capacity testing.
- 34. After this examination, Dr. Burden noted in his report that Mr. St. Laurent has a "very mild" spinal stenosis, a "minimal" amount of degenerative disc disease, no scar tissue, no pain into his legs, and he "feels good."
- 35. After his physical examination, Dr. Burden wrote that Mr. St. Laurent has a "normal range of motion and no objective evidence of any significant lumbo-sacral pathology."
- 36. Dr. Burden opined that Mr. St. Laurent could work, but "a better effective work effort

- would be expected if he had some restrictions on lifting heavy weights, particularly in a repeated manner or such as is exerted on the lower back with torque twisting function when loaded."
- On November 9, 2001, Dr. Burden authored an addendum clarifying his opinion in his
 October 18, 2001 report. In this report, Dr. Burden specifically opined that Mr. St.

 Laurent could return to work at UPS as a driver "if consideration were given to his degree of repetition of lifting on the job requirement description of seventy pounds and the occasional lifting and moving up to one hundred fifty pounds."
- 38. Despite receiving this report, UPS refused to let Mr. St. Laurent return to work, and refused to engage in any type of discussion regarding what accommodation could be made to allow Mr. St. Laurent to return to work.
- On November 27, 2001, Mr. St. Laurent filed a charge with the Massachusetts

 Commission Against Discrimination alleging that UPS was preventing him from working due to his disability, and UPS failed to provide any accommodation allowing Mr. St.

 Laurent to work.
- 40. After eight months of litigation, on July 26, 2002, Mr. St. Laurent again went to UPS with another disability note from his treating doctor re-affirming his ability to return to work without any restrictions.
- 41. Mr. St. Laurent's medical condition did not changed in any way since his release to return to work full duty in May of 2001.
- 42. Again, UPS refused to allow Mr. St. Laurent return to work and instead scheduled an appointment with a doctor of its choice, Dr. Robert Naparstek.

- 43. Mr. St. Laurent was examined by Dr. Naperstek on September 11, 2002. Dr. Naperstek advised that Mr. St. Laurent will need to undergo a functional capacity evaluation which will actually test his ability to lift weight.
- 44. Finally, Mr. St. Laurent was given the opportunity to prove he could lift the weight required for his job. However, Dr. Naperstek wanted Mr. St. Laurent to take one month to work out in a gym in preparation for the examination, as he had not engaged in any physical activity of almost one and a half years.
- 45. Mr. St. Laurent returned to Dr. Naperstek on October 9, 2002 and undertook a functional capacity examination which he passed with ease.
- 46. Mr. St. Laurent was able to lift 70 pounds on his own, up to 150 pounds with the assistance of another and up to 250 pounds with a pallet jack.
- 47. Finally, UPS allowed Mr. St. Laurent to return to work in October of 2002 and he has worked since without any difficulties.
- 48. Mr. St. Laurent satisfied all conditions precedent to the bringing of this cause of action.

<u>COUNT I -- DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION AGAINST UPS</u> VIOLATION OF MASS. GEN. L. CH. 151B

- 49. The Plaintiff repeats and reavers the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 48 above.
- 50. Mr. St. Laurent was wrongfully denied the ability to return to work based on his disability, or perceived as disability.
- 51. Mr. St. Laurent was discriminated against when the Employer refused to provide a reasonable accommodation, that would have allowed Mr. St. Laurent to return to work.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Peter St. Laurent, demands judgement against the Defendant UPS in the amount of his damages with interest, plus costs, and statutory reasonable attorney's fees.

JURY CLAIM

The Plaintiff claims a trial by jury on all issues set forth herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter St. Laurent,

By Nis Attorney

Seth J. Elin, BBO# 636099

KECHES & MALLEN, P.C.

122 Dean Street

Taunton, MA 02780

(508) 822-2000

Dated: May 20, 2004

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Peter St. Laurent, Plaintiff,

BRISTOL SS

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO.

٧. United Parcel Service, Defendant.

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES

The Plaintiff, Peter St. Laurent, was wrongfully denied the ability to return to work for approximately 21 months based on his disability and was discriminated against when the Employer refused to provide a reasonable accommodation that would allow Mr. St. Laurent to return to work. The Plaintiff brings this action against United Parcel Service for lost wages, with pain and suffering. Mr. St. Laurent has suffered extensive damages in lost wages and suffered depression and anguish. The Plaintiff's lost wages damages likely exceeds \$25,000.00.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff states that his damages are likely to exceed \$25,000.00.

Respectfully submitted, Peter St. Laurent,

By His Attorney

Elin, BBO# 6360

KECHES & MALLEN, P.C.

122 Dean Street

Taunton, MA 02780

(508) 822-2000

Dated: May 20, 2004